

Meet Duxbury

Diane Bartlett **Affordable Housing Trust Comm., Chair**

BY: JP O'NEIL, CLIPPER INTERN

As Chair of the Affordable Housing Trust, Diane Bartlett knows a thing or two about helping the community and its members. Bartlett is not afraid to take matters into her own hands to make sure the people of Duxbury get what they deserve.

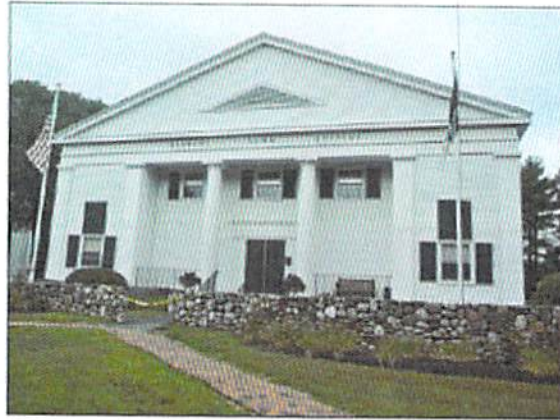
"The Town has been below the required amount of affordable housing units for a while," Bartlett said. "So I decided to get involved to try to change that."

Bartlett joined the Local Housing Partnership Committee (LHPC) when it formed in 2002. Soon after Bartlett's arrival, the LHPC created the Affordable Housing Trust to allow two separate committees to work on affordable housing.

"The Local Housing Partnership realized this was causing a great deal of confusion within the town hall as to who was responsible for what," Bartlett said. "Eventually I suggested to the LHPC to combine both groups, and the Affordable Housing Trust members concurred we should just have one entity which, in 2008, became the present day Affordable Housing Trust Committee."

Bartlett was so involved and well liked by the the new Affordable Housing Trust committee that she was chosen to replace Bill Campbell as the new Chair when he stepped down.

"My responsibilities as Chair are to be the coordinator of the two meetings we have each month, research for the committee and complete the paperwork for the town hall," Bartlett said. "I also coordinate with our partners, sponsors and other departments in the town. It can get really busy." Bartlett acknowledged she could not do all the work without the help from the rest of the committee. "I have a fabulous committee, who all bring different backgrounds such as builders, realtors, attorneys and more," Bartlett said. "When we all are working together we make a great team." Currently, Bartlett and the rest of the Affordable Hous-



The Affordable Housing Trust holds its meetings at Duxbury Town Hall.

Photo by Aaron Carr



Bartlett has been dedicated to the Town of Duxbury since she began living here in 1976.

Continued on page [3](#)

Continued from page [1](#)

ing Committee are working on a project to create six new units -- three affordable and three median income -to help Duxbury continue to reach closer to the state recommended level of affordable housing units.

Bartlett has been living in Duxbury since 1976 and has been dedicated to the town. Bartlett and her husband even built their home from scratch with their own hands.

“We worked all day long, six days a week,” Bartlett said. “We even set up a tent for our seven-year-old son and threeyear- old daughter to play in while we worked.”

Since starting with the Duxbury High School Calendar Committee in 1982, Bartlett has been involved with numerous committees and organizations.

“Inside of Duxbury I have worked with the High Safety Committee, I’ve been the vice president of the garden club and I’ve been involved with the school in a number of areas,” Bartlett said. “I believe that one should give back to the world and their community in any way they can.”

Outside of Duxbury, Bartlett has been working in the field of sales. Since 2004, she has been a special needs parent consultant and advocate.

“I having taken my training at the Federation for Children with Special Needs and Suffolk Law School,” Bartlett said. “I thoroughly enjoy helping families find their way through the special education programs at their respective schools to resolve issues. If solutions are not forthcoming from the school, I assist them with mediation with the State Department of Education to provide the services their children need.”

One of Bartlett’s most interesting moments came during one of former Massachusetts Governor Paul Cellucci’s speeches. “I was asked to speak on behalf of the issues of insurance companies having priority over doctors in terms of the patient’s release,” Bartlett said. “Being such a strong advocate on behalf of the doctors, it was a big honor.” Bartlett’s term as Chair of the Affordable Housing Trust ends on June 30, 2016, but she plans to stay involved and help the community in any way she can.